

<p>STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: HE-166 PEPFAR CODE: NA</p>	<p>1 Care Service - Community or Household Gardens: Number of eligible individuals benefiting from community or household gardens.</p>	
<p>HEALTH SECTOR</p>	<p>Sector Schematic Alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Area: HIV Mitigation • Project Activity Area/Training Package: HIV Care, Support, and Treatment 	
<p>Type: Short-term Outcome</p>	<p>Unit of Measure: Individuals</p>	<p>Disaggregation:</p> <p>Sex: Male, Female Age: 0-9 years, 10-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-24 years, 25+ years</p>

To be counted for this indicator the following criteria must be met:

- The individual must have benefitted from (grown/received and utilized) fruits or vegetables grown in the community or household garden.
- The gardens must have been organized by the PCV or their partners.
- Receipt of foodstuffs must be documented by the Volunteer or their partner.

Definitions:

Household gardens are gardens planted in the backyards and/or kitchens of households in many parts of the world. The gardens offer great potential for improving household food security and alleviating micronutrient deficiencies. They enhance food security in several ways: 1) direct access to a diversity of nutritionally-rich foods, 2) increased purchasing power from savings on food bills and income from sales of garden products, and 3) fall-back food provision during seasonal lean periods.

Community gardens are planted on a single piece of land and gardened collectively by a group of people. They are commonly found on land owned by schools, churches, and municipalities. They can offer the same benefits as household gardens.

Rationale: According to FAO, one of the easiest ways to ensure access to a healthy diet that contains adequate macro- and micronutrients is to produce many different kinds of foods in the home or community gardens. A well-developed home garden has the potential, to supply roots and tubers are rich in energy, and legumes are important sources of protein, fat, iron and vitamins. Green leafy vegetables and yellow- or orange-colored fruits provide essential vitamins and minerals particularly folate, and vitamins A, E and C. Vegetables and fruits are a vital component of a healthy diet and should be eaten as part of every meal.

Measurement Notes:

- 1. Sample Tools and/or Possible Methods (for Peace Corps staff use):** Volunteers should use data collection tools to measure progress against project indicators. A data collection tool to measure this indicator could be based on one of the following methods—checklist, observation and self-report survey—though there may be other data collection methods that are appropriate. Please check PCLive for data collection tools. Once a tool has been developed, post staff should have a few Volunteers and their partners pilot it, and then distribute and train Volunteers on its use.
- 2. General Data Collection for Volunteer Activities:** All Volunteer activities should be conducted with the intention

of achieving outcomes – knowledge change (short-term), skills demonstration (intermediate-term), and behavioral changes (intermediate to long term) as defined by the progression of indicators within the objectives of a project framework. The progression of measurement for all Volunteer activities should begin with baseline data being conducted prior to the implementation of an activity (or set of activities), followed by documenting any outputs of the activities and then later at the appropriate time, measurements of specific outcomes (see the bullet on “frequency of measurement”).

3. **Activity-Level Baseline Data Collection:** This indicator builds off of indicator *HE-165: 1 Care Service - Food and/or other Nutritional Support: Number of eligible individuals who received food and/or other nutrition services*. This indicator measures those who were trained in nutrition and household garden construction. Therefore, data collected in the form of program records for HE-165 would serve as the baseline data for this indicator.
4. **Frequency of Measurement:** For reporting accurately on this outcome indicator, Volunteers must take a minimum of two measurements with members of the target population reached with their activities. After taking the baseline measurement (described above), Volunteers should take at least one follow-on measurement with the same individual(s), typically after completing one or more activities focused on achieving the outcome in this indicator and once they have determined that the timing is appropriate to expect that the outcome has been achieved. Please note that successful documentation of a behavior change or new practice may not be immediately apparent following the completion of activities and may need to be planned for at a later time. Once Volunteers have measured that at least one individual has achieved the indicator, they should report on it in their next VRF.

Volunteers may determine to take more than one baseline and one follow-on measurement with the same individual (or group of individuals) for the following valid reasons:

- Volunteers may want to measure whether or not any additional individuals initially reached with activities have now achieved the outcome in the indicator, particularly for any activities that are on-going in nature (no clear end date);
- Volunteers may want to enhance their own learning and the implementation of their activities by using the data collected as an effective monitoring tool and feedback mechanism for the need to improve or increase their activities;
- A Peace Corps project in a particular country may choose to increase the frequency of measurement of the indicator and Volunteers assigned to that project will be required to follow in-country guidance.

In all cases, any additional data collection above the minimum expectation should be based on the time, resources, accessibility to the target population, and the value to be gained versus the burden of collecting the data. Following any additional measurements taken, Volunteers should report on any new individuals achieving the outcome in their next VRF.

5. **Definition of Change:** The minimum change to report against this indicator is that an individual at least once benefitted from the garden through either consumption or sales of the products grown in the garden. If the person the Volunteer/partner works with has already benefitted from a household or community garden, then the Volunteer would not be able to count him/her for this activity because the Volunteer’s work did not actually lead to the desired change. However, if as a result of working with the Volunteer/partner, there is an additional benefit for the individual, such as increased nutritional diversity in the garden or improved marketability of products, that would count because the Volunteer’s work influenced adding value to the existing garden.

- 6. General Reporting in the VRF:** The “number achieved” (or numerator) that Volunteers will report against for this indicator in their VRFs is the number of individuals who have created a value-added or added a *new* value to a product, after working with the Volunteer/partner. The “total number” (or denominator) that Volunteers will report on for this indicator in their VRFs is the total number of individuals who participated in the activities designed to meet this indicator. This indicator is intended to capture programs targeting pregnant women, PLWH, OVCs and others affected by HIV. The numerator can be generated by counting the number of individuals benefiting from community or household gardens. The denominator is generated by counting all individuals who participated in a group with whom the Volunteer works.
- 7. Reporting on Disaggregated Data in the VRF:** This indicator is disaggregated by “Age” and “Sex”. When reporting in the VRF, a volunteer should disaggregate the total number of male individuals by 0-9 years, 10-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-24 years, 25+ years and the total number of female individuals by 0-9 years, 10-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-24 years, and 25+ years.

Data Quality Assessments (DQA): DQA are needed for each indicator selected to align with the project objectives. DQAs review the validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness of each indicator. For more information, consult the Peace Corps MRE Toolkit.

Alignment with Summary Indicator: No LINK